

**HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT**  
*October 2001 Crop Prospects*

**Louisiana Crop Prospects**

Cotton and hay yields are expected to increase from previous estimates, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician with the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and Sorghum remain the only major crops expected to have lower yields than in 2001.

**Cotton** production is expected to total 780,000 bales, up 11 percent from last month, but 25 percent below 2001. An estimated 500,000 acres are expected for harvest, 355,000 fewer than last year. Yield per acre, at 749 pounds, is 169 pounds more than in 2001.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 29.4 million cwt, unchanged from last month, but down 2 percent from 2001. The state yield is expected to reach 5,500 cwt per acre, tying the state record set last year. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 535,000 acres. This is a decrease of 11,000 harvested acres from the 2001 crop.

**Sugarcane** production is estimated at 14.9 million net tons, unchanged from last month, but up 3 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 30 net tons per acre, up 1 ton from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 495,000 acres.

**Sorghum** production is estimated at 15.2 million bushels, down 5 percent from the previous month and down 15 percent from last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 195,000 acres, down 7 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 78 bushels per acres, 7 bushels fewer than last year.

**Soybean** production is expected to total 25.1 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but up 25 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 760,000 acres, up 25 percent from 2001. Yield is forecast at 33 bushels per acres, tying last year's record.

**Corn** production is forecast at 62.4 million bushels, unchanged from last month and up 37 percent from a year ago. Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 480,000 acres, up 56 percent from 2001. Yield per acre at 130 bushels, is down 18 bushels from 2001.

Louisiana production of **all hay** is estimated at 1.4 tons, up 7 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 450,000 acres, unchanged from 2001. Yield, at 3.0 tons per acre, is up 0.2 ton from 2001.

Pecan production is forecast at 9.0 million pounds, down 3.6 percent from last year's crop.

**United States Crop Prospects**

**Upland Cotton** harvested acreage, at 12.6 million acres, is down fractionally from the previous month and 7 percent less than 2001. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 241,400 acres, is unchanged from last month, but down 10 percent from a year ago.

Tropical storm Isidore dropped large quantities of rain throughout the Delta States. The already delayed harvest due to the slow maturing crop was set back further by the storm. The percent of acreage with bolls opened continued behind the 5-year average, which may limit the amount of lint loss from excess precipitation. The excessive moisture promoted boll lock, boll rot, and decreased the effectiveness of defoliant applications. Objective yield data show above average boll counts in Arkansas and Mississippi. Louisiana's boll counts are the second highest since 1994.

**Rice** production is forecast at 212 million cwt, up 3 percent from September, but down 1 percent from 2001. As of October 1, the U.S. all rice yield is forecast at a record high 6,608 pounds per acre. This is up 176 pounds from the September forecast and up 179 pounds from the current record high yield in 2001. Record high yields are forecast for Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas.

As of September 29, the U.S. rice harvest was 71 percent complete, 1 percentage point behind the 5-year average.

Harvest was nearly complete in Louisiana and Texas. Harvest was 70 percent complete in Arkansas, 73 percent complete in Mississippi, and 51 percent complete in Missouri. All Delta States were within 4 percentage points of the 5-year average harvest progress. California rice harvest, at 45 percent complete, was 11 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

**Sugarcane** production is forecast at 35.3 million tons, fractionally above the September 1 forecast and 2 percent above last year's 34.6 million tons. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 1.02 million acres for sugar and seed during the 2002 crop year. This is slightly lower than the previous month's forecast, and 1 percent below last year's 1.03 million harvested acres. Yield is forecast at 34.6 tons per acre, up 0.2 ton from the September 1 forecast and 3 percent above last year's 33.6 ton yield.

Tropical Storm Isidore halted Louisiana's early-season harvest for a few days. Also, severe lodging was expected to result in a more tedious harvest pace. However, acreage and yield reductions were not expected. Warm weather and adequate precipitation supported normal development in Florida.

**Sorghum** production is forecast at 387 million bushels, up 1 percent from last month, but down 25 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, the sorghum yield forecast is 51.4 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from September, but down 8.5 bushels from last year. Yield increases from last month are expected in 2 of the top 11 producing States; Oklahoma and Texas. Texas expects a yield of 50.0 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels above last month. The yield forecast for Kansas is unchanged from last month. The U.S. area for harvest as grain is forecast at 7.53 million acres, which is the same as last month, but down 12 percent from 2001.

As of September 29, harvest had begun in the top 11 states, except New Mexico. The continued drought condition in New Mexico lowered sorghum conditions compared to last month. Tropical storm Isidore slowed harvesting progress in the Delta. In Texas, harvest is complete in the southern and central areas, but continues in the Plains. Oklahoma, Texas, and South Dakota experienced favorable weather conditions during September. Fields turned color about 2 weeks behind normal in Kansas. United States sorghum developed trailed last year's crop, and is slightly behind the 5-year average. Sorghum progressed to 71 percent mature, compared to 78 percent last year and the 5-year average of 75 percent.

**Soybean** production is forecast at 2.65 billion bushels, virtually unchanged from September but 8 percent below 2001. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 37.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1999. Yield forecasts increased from last month in the central Great Plains, upper and lower Mississippi Valley and the Tennessee Valley as September weather provided beneficial showers. However, yields declined in the northern Great Plains and eastern Corn Belt due to above normal temperatures. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 71.8 million acres, unchanged from September and 2 percent below last year.

**Corn** production is forecast at 8.97 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month but down 6 percent from 2001. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 127.2 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels from September but down 11.0 bushels from last year. If realized, production would be at the lowest level since 1995. Yield are lower than last month in the eastern Corn Belt as farmers are starting to record actual harvested yields and realizing the overall effect the late spring plantings and summer drought conditions had on the crop. However, expected yields are up sharply in Iowa and Minnesota as conditions have been ideal during the entire growing season.

**All Hay** production is forecast at 150.4 million tons, 1 percent below the August forecast, and 4 percent below last year. Yields are expected to average 2.33 tons per acre, down 0.03 ton from the August forecast and 0.14 ton below 2001. Harvested acreage is estimated at 64.7 million, unchanged from the last forecast, but up 2 percent from 2001.

**Pecans** October 1 forecast for 2002 pecan utilized production is 202 million pounds (in-shell basis), down 40 percent from last year's crop and 4 percent below the 2000 crop year. The dry summer growing conditions in some locations combined with the low year of the alternate bearing cycle have contributed to a markedly smaller crop. These dry conditions caused early nut drop, especially in non-irrigated groves. Improved varieties are expected to make up 152 million pounds or three quarters of the total, while the Native and seedling varieties, at 49.6 million pounds, make up the remaining crop.

## Louisiana and U.S. Crop Report - October 1, 2002

Crop	Acres Expected for Harvest (000)		Forecast Yield Per Acre		Unit	Forecast Production (000)		Percent Change From 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	
<b>Louisiana</b>								
Corn for grain	307	<b>480</b>	148	<b>130</b>	bushels	45,436	<b>62,400</b>	<b>+37</b>
Upland Cotton	855	<b>500</b>	580	<b>749</b>	lbs: bales	1,034	<b>780</b>	<b>-25</b>
Rice	546	<b>535</b>	5,500	<b>5,500</b>	lbs: cwt	30,014	<b>29,425</b>	<b>-2</b>
Sorghum for grain	210	<b>195</b>	85	<b>78</b>	bushels	17,850	<b>15,210</b>	<b>-15</b>
Soybeans	610	<b>760</b>	33	<b>33</b>	bushels	20,130	<b>25,080</b>	<b>+25</b>
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	495	<b>495</b>	29	<b>30</b>	net tons	14,355	<b>14,850</b>	<b>+3</b>
Hay, all	450	<b>450</b>	2.8	<b>3.0</b>	tons	1,260	<b>1,350</b>	<b>+7</b>
Pecans, all	---	---	---	---	pounds	14,000	<b>9,000</b>	<b>-36</b>
<b>United States</b>								
Corn for grain	68,808	<b>70,541</b>	138.2	<b>127.2</b>	bushels	9,506,840	<b>8,969,836</b>	<b>-6</b>
Upland Cotton	13,559.5	<b>12,650.0</b>	694	<b>663</b>	lbs: bales	19,602.4	<b>17,435.0</b>	<b>-11</b>
Rice	3,314	<b>3,207</b>	6,429	<b>6,608</b>	lbs: cwt	213,045	<b>211,921</b>	<b>-1</b>
Sorghum for grain	8,584	<b>7,528</b>	59.9	<b>51.4</b>	bushels	514,524	<b>387,249</b>	<b>-25</b>
Soybeans	72,975	<b>71,799</b>	39.6	<b>37.0</b>	bushels	2,890,682	<b>2,653,798</b>	<b>-8</b>
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	1,028.0	<b>1,022.6</b>	33.6	<b>34.6</b>	net tons	34,587	<b>35,346</b>	<b>+2</b>
Hay, all	63,511	<b>64,709</b>	1.93	<b>1.87</b>	tons	156,703	<b>150,447</b>	<b>-4</b>
Pecans, all	---	---	2.47	<b>2.33</b>	pounds	338,500	<b>201,700</b>	<b>-40</b>

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